New Stuffs For Spring and Summer Frocks.

BARGAINS FOR GOOD BUYERS

Winter Materials Well Worth Buying Now.

Crepes and Lightweight Cloths Suitable for Warm Weather Wear to Be Had at Reduced Prices-Black and White Checks Among the Season's Novelties -Precedence Given in the New Spring Models to the Bolero and the Belted Coat With Short Basques-The Waistcoat an Almost Invariable Accompaniment of the Street Coat-Fresh Attractions in the Linen Frocks-The Embrolderies Are Finer Than Ever.

The first display of spring goods has been made and now the merchants appear to be resting upon their laurels and giving themselves over to disposing of their old stock rather than to pushing the new goods.

To be sure there are warm weather frocks offered to tempt the women who are going South for the next two months, and there are thin stuffs on sale, particularly in shops of the higher class, but the early birds who are picking up these summery materials are few, and the crowd is to be found around the bargain counters, where winter materials light enough in character to be utilized for spring and summer wardrobes are being offered at greatly reduced prices.

Crêpes in varying weights, eoliennes, veilings, lightweight cloths, &c., are as



practical for one season as for another, but such goods, where they have formed a part of the winter stock, are often in the way of the new output, and merchants who keep up with every smallest move on the part of the manufacturers haven't room to Garry over everything among the winter materials that might possibly have a chance among the new stuff.

And so the bargain counters are piled high with lightweight silk and wool, all wool and all silk stuffs, some of them a trifle shopworn or out of style, others fresh and conservative enough in color and design to be desirable in any season.

The woman who knows values, who can plexion heated to florid hues. The woman who knows values, who can tell the quality of goods and see the possibilities in a length of material, would do sibilities in a length of material, would do well to dare the bargain counter rush and pick up some of the eoliennes, crépes, &c., that are being sold at prices really low, but she must be wary, for, in some shops, goods worth no more than the price asked for them are plentifully mingled with the genuine bargains.

One woman of small means and many daughters sallied forth last Monday and came home bearing her sheaves in the form of materials for four frocks and three blouses, all bought at figures absurdly low. A length of pearl gray chiffon crépe was the best of the assortment; for, though



soiled slightly along one edge, there was enough of the material to allow for some waste and save for this quarter inch at the edge the crepe was fresh. The quality was excellent and the price not more than

a third of the regular cost. An almond green silk veiling in a short dress length was another excellent bargain obtained in the interests of a girl still in short skirts. A dark blue and green checked worsted in light weight was well worth buying at less than half price, as was a biscuit lightweight broadcloth which had two streaks across it in the course of its length, but was exquisite in quality and could easily be cut in such fashion as to avoid the two soiled places without wasting

any serious amount of material. But successful bargain hunting is for the elect few who have time and expert knowledge and buy only to fill real wants, not merely to satisfy the bargain fever. The average woman will do better to look for what she wants at the regular counter, and these counters already offer enough in variety and beauty to make the selection of one's whole summer wardrobe a pos-

sibility, if one is so forehanded. One prominent shop has been showing a particularly attractive line of black and white check effects in light weight worsteds. an echo of last season's popular plaid but with variations, and women seemed to recognize possibilities in the stuffs. for many frock lengths were sold. There were checks little and checks big, checks is an almost invariable accompaniment of

or small or irregular checks. Many of these stuffs had threads of color. dull blue, or fruit red, or green, or yellow, showing here and there through the black and elaborate embroidery, many are unand white check grounds, and some of the most attractive designs had silk dots in some soft dull shade scattered at wide

mer sun and in combination with a com-

in the new stuffs, at the light end of the

gamut of white and brown checks, and

smart summer shirt waist frock or after-

neon frock. It would, for instance, enter

effectively into two of the frocks sketched

here, although the original models of both

One of these frocks, distinctly chio,

which run two broad bands of lace, bor-

dered by velvet ribbon shirred at both

edges. The bodice blouses slightly and

soft jabots of lace, the fronts being finished

This model might be effectively and easily

carried out in any pretty voile, crepe or

eolienne, and would surely be modish

The other frock demands a sheer soft

stuff adapting itself readily to drapery, and,

though very simple in appearance, would

tax the maker's skill as do all frocks depending upon bodice drapery and skirt

lines for their success. The heavy lace

yoke is excellent in line and not difficult of

Going back to the subject of the new

goods, there are delectable tweeds in light

creamy grays and mode tones with almost

invisible plaiding in lines of white and vary-

ing shades of the ground color, and there

are, of course, darker tweeds, homespuns,

cheviots and serges in every imaginable

coloring; but the chances are that étamine

weaves will compete with these heavier

wools, as they did last season in the province

of the coat and skirt frock and other tail-

From Paris come tales of Riviera street

frocks carrying out the redingote and long ooat ideas launched this winter; but though

we shall doubt less see many long coats among

the spring costumes the new spring models

up to the present time give precedence to the

bolero and to the belted coat with short

The waistcoat in one form or another

by velvet ribbon set on in scrolls.

conjures up a vision of an exceedingly

summer's offerings, and it appears

were in one tone stuffs.

throughout the summer.

ored costumes.

ntervals over the checked surface. Indications that checked materials have not lost prestige are seen, too, in the new taffetas, messalines, foulards, &c., and in the veilings and coliennes. Brown and white and champagne and white, are combinations much in evidence; and if, as the early showing suggests, the browns are to continue their vogue into warm weather, this vision of the new browns with white will be one of the coolest of the brown effects. A majority of the winter's new browns, while beautiful, are too warm in color to look

cuffs and fronts. For frocks made with short boleros in one with the bodices, this surplice front idea is well liked and easy of development. One of the outs shows such an arrangement, and not only with the bolero, but

FASHION'S LAYOUT in which the white predominated and only narrow lines of black barred off the large often depends. The surplice waistcoat often depends. The surplice waistcoat finds considerable favor, as do all surplice effects, and though some of these surplice waistcoats have borders of beautiful trimmed and rely for success upon the color

> One smart model in dark blue serge has And, by the way, a word of warning may not come amiss right here. The women a blouse Eton coat with short, rounded basques and a surplice waistooat formed who select and buy their laces and emof bias folds of half inch blue and green checks, barred off by a hair line of yellow. broideries for summer frocks now show Tiny bias pipings of the silk enter into the wisdom, for the assortment is infinitely better than it will be later, and, as is always trimming of the skirt and coat, and small dull gold buttons are set on the girdle, the case, the particularly new and beautiful designs are being picked up quickly by the dressmakers and only the more ordinary patterns will be left in stock late

in the season. The same is true of summer stuff, although anything save oppressive under a midsum- also with the Louis and Directoire coats

A warning upon this topic of early

believed that the heavier silks of this perand, in other lights, like an embroidery suasion will be much used for summer coat and skirt costumes. Indeed, many such inset with Valenciennes motifs. Description fails to give an idea of these costumes for Southern wear have already

materials, as of all the new embroideries been turned out by the fashionable dressand laces, but a visit to the embroidery and lace counters of one of the shops esmakers. pecially noted for such goods will move any appreciative woman to enthusiasm, if not to riotous extravagance.

of course many of the best of these materials

are not yet in the market, and one will be fairly sure of finding something satisfactory among the great variety even late in the

They are made either in severe tailored fashion or trimmed in some one of the heavy crochet laces matching the silk in tone, and many of the coats for such frocks are loose sacques or paletots, though the fitted coat is really smarter for any length below the waist line. The fitted coat of linen, save in the case of the bolero, is seldom a success-never a success, one may safely say, if the frook is actually intended to brave the laundress. But the linen boleros are of great variety and charm. Several of the new linen models are pictured in the central group, and though no one of the models chosen is elaborate any one of them is worth copying. A particularly girlish and piquant frock of almond green linen was made with an untrimmed plaited skirt and a blouse cut down in a broad V at the throat and made

with short sleeves ending at the elbow



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wonderful assortment of embroideries done upon heavy linens and combined with heavy lace into superb trimmings of all shapes and forms. Sometimes two or three kinds of lace, coarse and fine, are united with the embroidery in these trimmings, and the prices asked for such works of art are appalling to the shopper of mod-

Real Irish crochet is more popular than ever, and apparently more beautiful. The designs in which part of the crochet is raised and entirely separate from the groundwork, save at one point of juncture, are particu-

larly fancied—and particularly expensive. Exquisite new robe patterns in lace, net and combinations of net on lace with silk or cloth or linen are being shown, and, though expensive, are so easily made up that a part of the initial expense may be saved by retrenchment in the cost of making. Cut-out allovers of cloth or of linen over a foundation of heavy net are used for coats and deep skirt trimmings upon frocks of plain cloth, linen or, preferably, sheerer material.

As for the all lace robes, they are of all kinds and prices, and are in many cases bewilderingly beautiful. The vogue of the long fitted coat shows in this lace robe realm, for many of the patterns include such a coat made upon good lines and with such allowances that it may be readily fitted to any ordinary figure.

THE MODERN WOMAN.

Over the desk in the private office of Mrs. De Mille, the play broker, hangs this

Plays are not written, but rewritten.-Dion Boucleault.

A stranger not of the cult looked questioningly at the motto. In reply Mrs. De Mille said:

"That is one of my choicest posses First, it is absolutely true. Then it was

and expect them to be produced at once, and are down in the depths immediately when told that they must be reconstructed. It's not'their experience alone, it's the experience of every playwright living or dead.

Plays must be written and rewritten and written over again; they must be ruth-lessly butchered, cut and hacked until they embody all the essentials of plot, character and technique, and include that vital something which means the success or failure of a drama when it is put on the

stage.
"This is bitter medicine to most dramatio authors, but it is particularly so to who, as you know, dare to rush in where angels fear to tread."

If there are vet women who think that the superstition about wearing peacook feathers is still ingrained in the minds of their sex, let them take a stroll up Fifth avenue or through the park some fine morning when the up to date woman is out exercising her dog or her baby, and out exercising her dog or her baby, and their minds will be disabused of the notion. For morning wear it has become a fad to have a bunch of peacock feathers stuck jauntily through the band of a soft felt Fedora bat. Glowing cheeks and the rich blue-green of the feathers make charming contrasts and the effect is extremely chic.

On the other hand, the pet superstition that good luck follows the finding of a horseshoe has a stout believer in the person of a pretty girl who was afterward identified

as the daughter of a prominent lawyer. It was at the junction of Fourteenth street and Eighth avenue one very stormy day. A horse had just cast his shoe and it lay in an angle of the car tracks gleaming bright and shiny in the rain. It was pouring pitchforks and the street was flowing with muddy streams.

Most foot passengers were so busy trying to keep dry and hold on to their umbrellas that their eyes didn't strike the cast-

off shoe. But the pretty girl saw it and stopped irresolute.

She started on with vigor. Then she stopped and looked back at the good luck sign, which seemed to beg to be taken up. Like Lot's wife, she turned back and was Out she trudged, with the eddying stream

out she triaged, with the eddying stream coming up over the tops of her rubbers, picked up the shoe, hid it underneath her long English raincoat and down the street she plodded, a half smile on her face, as though content that she hadn't left her good luck behind. Housewives who find it a bore to wind

the clock every seven, eight or fourteen days, as the case may be, will be pleased to know that there is a clock on the market which has to be wound only every 400 days. Ten chances to one they would forget to wind it at that.

Wise ones long ago decided that it isn't safe to predict where a woman's fancy will lead her.

To illustrate, not long ago a certain smart hotographer who knows womankind by whispered that it was quite the property by whispered that it was quite the property of the pro photographer who knows womankind slyly whispered that it was quite the properthing to have one's foot photographed and mentioned one of his patrons, noted for her dainty feet, as having started the fad. And, lo and behold, the world was scarcely a day older before he was besieged with orders from fair clients for pictures of their pretty feet.

Consequently in the room of the up to but good effects might be obtained by the use of contrasting colors with white or neutral toned linen.

Wonderful embroidery and lace trimmings are being lavished upon linen frocks of the more elaborate sort, and shops that



brarian of Congress, Washington, Trial treatment at office, \$1. MME, JULIAN, 123 5th ave. GHOSTS.

Notes on a Colonial Lady Spook in Boston and a Steady Gazer in Gramercy Park.

"In our house in Boston," said the Boston girl, "we have a little old fashioned Colonial ghost that somebody left there. Nearly all of us have seen her walking up and down the stairs. She is the quaintest little thing you ever saw. She wears a short waisted, long skirted dress, with a little cape pinned across her bosom. Her shoes are low and buckled. She wears a poke bonnet, too.

"When we first went there a friend who was visiting us sat by the fire awhile, then got up and walked away. He had no sooner risen than the little ghost came from somewhere, we never knew where, and took his seat. He turned and looked at her. As he looked she leaned forward and threw herself into the fire.

"He was amazed, but when he was told about it was assured that it was a very natural thing for the little old woman to do. She had fallen from that chair into the fire and had been burned to death. That was why she wandered about so.

That was why she wandered about so, varying the monotony by falling into the fire again whenever the chair was empty."

"Boston is not the only city with a ghost." remarked the New York girl. "We have one right here in Gramercy Park; that is, in one of the houses overlooking it. A child first discovered this ghost. He was put to sleep in a room by himself. He cried and begged for somebody to sit with him till he went to sleep. He said there was a man in the room, who stood over him, looking at him.

"They thought little of it, supposing it was only a childish fear, but not long

constantly on the lips of the elder Bouciault, who knew so well the value of it, and it has been the salvation of scores of discouraged dramatic authors.

"Women come to me with their plays

"They thought little of it, supposing it was only a childish fear, but not long afterward a man was put into the same room to sleep. He awoke in the dead of night in a cold perspiration. Man as he was, he got up, and, going to one of the brothers of the family, begged him to come and the room of the tree or on the property of the room of of the roo

"It was a beautiful house. She had the key to the park, so she could go and sit there all day long among the flowers if she wanted to and watch the poor unfortunates without keys who walked outside and peeped through the fence; but she stayed there just two days. While she never actually saw the ghost, she felt its presence so intensely that it was impossible for her to sleep."
"What had happened to the ghost before he became a ghost?" was asked.
"He had committed suicide in that room." 'It was a beautiful house. She had the

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WEST 21ST AND WEST 22D STREETS. NEAR SIXTH AVE.

It is said that the mannish waistcoat of effects have a trim and delectable appear- a woman who, having resisted temptation sheerest openwork batiste, showing as a

white pique, white duck and other washable vesting materials will be popular with the close fitting tailor cost ume in the coming summer, and there's no denying that such ance when worn by the right girl and associated with a linen collar and dickey; but the mannish rôle does not suit every though easily copied. has a full skirt around woman, and the sheer French lingerie blouse or the soft shirt waist or blouse with fancy stock will doubtless be the general wear with the summer's coat and skirt. opens all the way down the front to show The linen frocks multiply day by day,

surplice folds of chiffon, mousseline

other sheer stuff are often used to fill in the

and here again the bolero has the lead, appearing in every imaginable guise, long, short, triple, loose, fitted, bloused loose boleros, like the ones sketched here, with short loose sleeves whose top fulness marks the differentiation from last year's models, are shown in some of the best houses, in company with plain plaited skirts of linen and sheer blouses of allover batiste openwork embroidery, or of batiste or lawn trimmed in lace and hand work. The new allover embroideries are even lovelier than those of last summer, although last summer one would have denied the possibility of improvement.

Among the most exquisite of the new designs is an allover embroidery on finest batiste or swiss, whose design is of the finest cobweb tracery in raised work, with minute openwork or eyelet details hardly larger than pinheads. The work has the appearance of the finest hand needlework and is of an indescribable daintiness though not so boldly decorative as the more open and striking broderie anglaise.

There are, too, allovers combining em proidery and lace in fashions entirely new and exquisite. They are not a mere eetting together of made laces and embroideries, but consist of interwoven irregular designs, part solid Valenciennes, part finest batiste embroidery. They look in some lights like a beautiful batiste em-

buying is supplied by the experience of Under this blouse was worn a blouse of during a tour of investigation among the guimpe and undersleeves, but the note of shops, and having stoutly wrestled with distinction in the frock lay in the broad tempting memory for days afterward, turnback collar and cuffs, which were scalloped on the edges and buttonholed yielded at last and sallied forth to buy a in heavy white linen and were ornamented coveted mercerized cotton in tiny checks of ripe apricots and white scattered over by a heavy raised embroidery linen. A scarf of soft black silk knotted under the with white wafers, and an adorable dimity over which were thrown little wreaths of | collar and with flowing ends gave a French faintest pink and green and yellow-only touch to the frock. to find that both pieces of material had been sold out within two days after they

were shown. Apricot, tea rose, tangerine, all the luscious pinkish yellow shades, are more prominent among the summer stuffs than ever before within memory, and in union with white are delightfully soft and cool. A genuine colonial buff, too, appears frequently among the cottons, linens and mercerized cottons, and it seems safe to assume that yellow, particularly in the shades just mentioned, will be well to the fore among the summer colorings. All the string color and natural ponges

and linen shades are popular, too, and some charming mercerised materials in these colorings have dots, cubes or other small figures of a sort of drawn work weeve. figures and ground work being all in one The printed pongees are in some instances

exceedingly attractive, though in other cases the printed design detracts from the beauty of the material instead of adding to it. Possibly the best of these pongees are in the natural shade and in the fine smooth surface quality, with little sprigs, sprays or wreaths of flowers in dull, soft broiders, and such details are the keynotes to individuality and medishness in a simple frock, meaning much more than any amount



silks. Bowlinghams, &c., are offered in beautiful dull tones, as well as in shades of

side of the water. A distinctly novel feature of a third linen frock, sketched here, one very readily reproduced, is the surplice front of the blouse bolero, and the trimming bordering the fronts. This trimming is merely a line from shoulder to waist, formed by a soft taffets soarf laced through large embroidered eyelet holes in the linen. Similar lacing trims the cuffs. In the model, the scarfs exactly matched the linen in tint, but good effects might be obtained by the

of elaborate applied machine trimming.

Another linen frock turned out by the

same maker is quite as severe in general

outline, but is softened by its revers and

flaring cuffs, which are formed of finely

tucked sheer lawn edged by several frills

of creamy valenciennes. Here, too, the

linen sleeves end at the elbow, and it is

evident that this type of sleeve and cuff.

worn with a sheer undersleeve, is to find

much favor in the coming season, though

the French elbow sleeve, showing the

point of the elbow and worn without under-

sleeves, is regarded very dubiously on this

Such a collar and cuffs might be quickly

were checks little and checks big, checks is an almost invariable accompaniment of broidery with wide open spaces, laid over beautiful dull tones, as well as in shades of of the more elaborate sort, and shops that of the street coat in wool or silk, and upon its a background of allover Valenciennes, white and of the natural tone, and it is make a specialty of such trimmings show a without wetting her foot.

colors scattered over the neutral lined ground. The heavier and rougher pongees, raw